United Nations A/65/929–S/2011/513

General Assembly
Security Council

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General Assembly
Sixty-fifth session
Agenda items 36 and 37

The situation in the Middle East

Question of Palestine

Security Council
Sixty-sixth year

Identical letters dated 10 August 2011 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith relevant documents along with letters written by 45 prominent Palestinians from Jerusalem and Israel, including Christian and Muslim figures, politicians, businesspeople and civil society activists, addressed to the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Navanethem Pillay, and the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), Irina Bokova, urging that they take action to stop the continued destruction of Ma'man Allah Cemetery in Jerusalem by the Israeli Government (see annex).

The present letter is in follow up to our letter dated 9 April 2010 (A/ES-10/486-S/2010/184), in which we enclosed the petition "Urgent action on human rights violations by Israel: Desecration of the Ma'man Allah (Mamilla) Muslim Cemetery in the Holy City of Jerusalem", filed by Palestinian individuals whose ancestors are buried at Ma'man Allah Cemetery in addition to several other NGOs from Palestine, Israel and the United States that oppose the establishment of so called Centre for Human Dignity and Museum of Tolerance on the human remains of the dead Muslims buried in the Cemetery.

We would like to recall that the Charter of the United Nations reaffirmed "faith in fundamental human rights, and in the dignity and worth of the human person" and committed all Member States to promote "universal respect for, and observance of, human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion". Ironically both the Centre and the Museum bear names that do not befit this act of bigotry and contempt against the dignity and worth of the human person. Protection of cultural heritage and cultural property, including religious sites such as cemeteries, is guaranteed by international human rights instruments such as the UNESCO World Heritage Convention, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political

Please recycle

Rights and the International Convention on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. Further building in the cemetery constitutes a violation of basic human rights, including the right to manifest religious beliefs, the right to family and culture, and the right to freedom from discrimination, as set forth in the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination.

Israel, the occupying Power, must be compelled to put an end to its unlawful policy of discrimination and contempt towards Palestinian Muslim and Christian holy places. We call on the international community, in particular the United Nations, to take the necessary actions to put an end to these violations.

I kindly request that the text of the present letter and its annexes be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 36 and 37, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Riyad **Mansour**
Ambassador
Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations

Annex I to the identical letters dated 10 August 2011 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

center for constitutional rights

الحملة الأهلية للحفاظ على
مقبرة مأمن الله المقدسية
Campaign to Preserve Mamilla Jerusalem Cemetery

CONTACT: Jen Nessel, 212.614.6449, jnessel@ccrjustice.org
David Lerner, Riptide Communications, 212.260.5000

Palestinian Community Leaders Urge UN and UNESCO to Oppose Israeli Construction of "Museum of Tolerance"

CCR and Campaign Continue to Press UN Officials

July 21, 2011, New York, Jerusalem – Forty-five prominent Palestinians from Jerusalem and Israel, including Christian and Muslim religious figures, politicians, businesspeople and civil society activists, today addressed United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights Navenethem Pillay, and UNESCO Director-General Irina Bokova, urging that they take action to stop the continued destruction of Mamilla Cemetery in Jerusalem. The *Campaign to Preserve Mamilla Jerusalem Cemetery* – a group of 60 individuals with ancestors buried in the cemetery who originally petitioned the same two officials in February 2010 with legal counsel from the Center for Constitutional Rights – transmitted the letter to the Center for Constitutional Rights, which submitted it to the UN and UNESCO officials today.

The signatories span a wide political spectrum, including Israeli Arab members of the Knesset from various political parties and Jerusalemite Ministers and senior officials of the Palestinian Authority and the Palestinian Liberation Organization. Prominent religious leaders have also joined the appeal, including Greek Orthodox Archbishop Attalah Hanna and Shaykh Akrama Sabri – President of the High Islamic Council, with inter-denominational support from Jerusalem community groups. (The list of signatories is attached).

The letter comes in the wake of the Israeli Interior Ministry's approval on July12, 2011 of construction plans for the U.S.-based Simon Wiesenthal Center's "Center for Human Dignity – Museum of Tolerance" on the site of part of an ancient Muslim cemetery in the heart of Jerusalem, where thousands of human remains, gravestones and archaeological artifacts have already been desecrated and destroyed. This approval gives the final administrative green light for construction to begin immediately. It follows the Jerusalem Municipality's razing of dozens of grave markers in the small part of the cemetery that remains intact, provoking outrage among the Petitioners and other Palestinians who consider the cemetery part of their cultural heritage.

In their letter, the community leaders expressed alarm at the official Israeli permission for construction work to begin on the site of the cemetery "for what they brazenly and unashamedly call a Center for Human Dignity – Museum of Tolerance! What humanity could this possibly refer to? And what dignity? And what tolerance?" Their letter appeals to the UN officials "for immediate intervention" by "sending a delegation to investigate the situation and putting pressure on the government of Israel, as was requested by the Human Rights Council Resolution of 2010." It emphasizes the "sanctity, location and historical importance of this cemetery, and the fact that it is an exceptional archaeological site, which is no less holy than the Christian or Jewish cemeteries whose profanation is also prohibited." The signatories also request that the international officials "give the necessary priority to the study of the Petition submitted…by a distinguished group of Jerusalemites…which includes thorough historical and legal documentation, and rightful and just requests that no reasonable person could refuse."

"This is not an issue that will disappear, and we are determined to show that it is a cause that unites all religions, and people across the political spectrum. We need action to ensure that this outrage to human dignity and tolerance does not continue, and is not repeated," says President of Al Quds University **Sari Nusseibeh**, one of 60 original Petitioners represented by CCR, and a signatory to the letter.

This eleventh-hour appeal follows the Center for Constitutional Rights' recent efforts to prompt action by the UNHCHR and UNESCO, which have yet to act on Petitioners' requests. "The pleas of people who are trying to protect the remains of their ancestors buried in Mamilla Cemetery have been largely disregarded by the international community, including the United Nations officials tasked with protecting their human rights," says CCR Acting Legal Director, **Maria LaHood**. "We will continue to appeal to the conscience of the world to prevent construction of the Museum, which is an attempt to erase Palestinian history and cultural heritage in Jerusalem."

The Petition, Addendum and other documents are available at www.mamillacampaign.org and http://www.ccrjustice.org/ourcases/current-cases/mamilla.

The Center for Constitutional Rights is dedicated to advancing and protecting the rights guaranteed by the United States Constitution and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Founded in 1966 by attorneys who represented civil rights movements in the South, CCR is a non-profit legal and educational organization committed to the creative use of law as a positive force for social change. Visit www.ccrjustice.org. Follow @theCCR.

The Campaign to Preserve Mamilla Jerusalem Cemetery was initiated by the Petitioners, and is a wholly civil, volunteer initiative with no political coloring. All 60 individual petitioners are descendants of 15 of Jerusalem's most prominent and longest established families and have no relation with previous individual or institutional claimants in Israeli courts. The Petition was also supported by 16 human rights non-governmental organizations, based in Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem.

Annex II to the identical letters dated 10 August 2011 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

الحملة الأهلية للحفاظ على

مقبرة مأمن الله المقدسية

Campaign to Preserve
Mamilla Jerusalem Cemetery

Jerusalem, 20 July 2011

Ms. Navanethem Pillay, United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights;

Ms. Irina Bokova, Director-General, UNESCO

Please find attached a letter addressed to you jointly from a group of 45 distinguished community leaders from Jerusalem and Israel, which they have requested be transmitted to you through our Campaign network to ensure it receives the attention it deserves.

As you are surely aware, our Campaign consists of a group of 60 Jerusalemites whose ancestors' remains repose in Mamilla Cemetery in the Holy City of Jerusalem, an antiquity site subject to "development" by the Simon Weisenthal Centre (SWC) into a "Museum of Tolerance" that will violate our core human rights and cultural heritage.

We have petitioned you both, we have exerted efforts to approach those SWC donors funding this desecration, we have even reached out to the Elders. And our just and legitimate demands continue to be met with a stony silence.

Please be assured that this is not an issue that will disappear, and that we are determined to show that Mamilla is a cause that unites all religions, and people across the political spectrum. We need your support and action to ensure that this outrage to human dignity and tolerance does not continue, and is not repeated.

On behalf of the *Campaign to Preserve Mamilla Jerusalem Cemetery*,

Professor Sari Nusseibeh

Ms. Huda Al-Imam

Ms. Dyala Husseini Dajani

Mr. Asem Said Khalidi

Letter dated 20 July 2011 from the Acting Legal Director of the Center for Constitutional Rights addressed to the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

We enclose herewith a letter addressed to you by forty-five prominent Palestinians from Jerusalem and Israel, including Christian and Muslim religious figures, politicians, businesspeople and civil society activists, urging you to take action to stop the continued destruction of Mamilla Cemetery in Jerusalem. The letter is enclosed in Arabic, along with an English translation. This letter was transmitted to the Center for Constitutional Rights (CCR) by the *Campaign to Preserve Mamilla Jerusalem Cemetery*, which CCR has been working with and which originally petitioned you in February 2010 to intervene regarding Israel's desecration of the historic Mamilla cemetery so that the Los Angeles based Simon Wiesenthal Center can construct a so-called "Museum of Tolerance." The Campaign's cover letter to you is also enclosed.

We greatly appreciate the urgent attention of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to this matter and look forward to your response. Please feel free to contact me at 212-614-6430 or mlahood@ccrjustice.org if you have any questions or need any additional information.

Sincerely,

Maria Clahood

Maria C. LaHood
Acting Legal Director

Encls.

Letter dated 20 July 2011 from the Acting Legal Director of the Center for Constitutional Rights addressed to the Director-General of UNESCO

We enclose herewith a letter addressed to you by forty-five prominent Palestinians from Jerusalem and Israel, including Christian and Muslim religious figures, politicians, businesspeople and civil society activists, urging you to take action to stop the continued destruction of Mamilla Cemetery in Jerusalem. The letter is enclosed in Arabic, along with an English translation. This letter was transmitted to the Center for Constitutional Rights (CCR) by the *Campaign to Preserve Mamilla Jerusalem Cemetery*, which CCR has been working with and which originally petitioned you in February 2010 to intervene regarding Israel's desecration of the historic Mamilla cemetery so that the Los Angeles based Simon Wiesenthal Center can construct a so-called "Museum of Tolerance." The Campaign's cover letter to you is also enclosed.

We greatly appreciate the urgent attention of UNESCO to this matter and look forward to your response. Please feel free to contact me at 212-614-6430 or mlahood@ccrjustice.org if you have any questions or need any additional information.

Sincerely,

Maria C. LaHood
Acting Legal Director

Encls.

cc: Mr. Francesco Bandarin, UNESCO Assistant Director-General for Culture

Attachment

Jerusalem, 20 July 2011

Ms. Navanethem Pillay, United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights;

Ms. Irina Bokova, Director-General, UNESCO

RE: Urgent Action to Prevent the Jerusalem Municipality from Completely Desecrating Ma'man Allah (Mamilla) Cemetery

With our warmest regards from the Holy City of Jerusalem,

Mamilla Cemetery is one of the oldest Palestinian cemeteries, in which were buried numerous Companions and followers of the Prophet Muhammad, learned scholars, military commanders and many notables of Jerusalem throughout history. Unfortunately, ever since the Nakbah, this cemetery has been continuously targeted by the Israeli authorities. Indeed, 85 per cent of its area has been turned into parks and streets, and buildings have been erected over parts of it. Only 23 dunums of the cemetery remain, and even this area has not been spared by the Israeli authorities, which have attempted to dispose of what is left of it in any way possible.

On 25 June 2011, under cover of darkness in the late hours of the night, Jerusalem Municipality bulldozers entered Mamilla Cemetery and completely destroyed some 100 graves and grave markers. The authorities are still determined to continue the levelling and destruction of the graves of Jerusalem's ancestors, and they have placed red marks on dozens of additional graves in preparation for their destruction. This comes against the backdrop of official threats that construction will begin on the site of the cemetery of what they brazenly and unashamedly call "A Center for Human Dignity — Museum of Tolerance"! *We ask you: To what humanity could this possibly refer? What dignity? What tolerance?*

In the face of these troubling developments, we the undersigned, in the name of our steadfast Muslim and Christian Arab people in the Holy Land and the Holy City of Jerusalem, the "Flower of Cities", appeal urgently for you to intervene immediately in order to stop the desecration of this cemetery by sending a delegation to investigate the situation and putting pressure on the Government of Israel, in accordance with the Human Rights Council resolution of 2010. This is especially important in light of the sanctity and historical importance of this cemetery, and the fact that it is an exceptional archaeological site, which is no less holy than the Christian or Jewish cemeteries whose desecration is also prohibited.

We therefore ask that you accord due priority to considering the petition submitted to you by a distinguished group of Jerusalemites, represented by the Center for Constitutional Rights in New York, which includes thorough historical and legal documentation on this issue and rightful and just requests that no reasonable person could refuse.

Thank you for your cooperation.

- Shaykh Ibrahim Sarsour — Member of Knesset.
- Mr. Ibrahim Matar — The National Christian Society.
- Mr. Ahmed Hashem al-Zaghayer — President, Union of Chambers of Commerce.
- Mr. Usama al-Sa'adi — Attorney.
- Ms. Ilham Salama, Social Department, YMCA.
- Mr. Iyad al-Masrouji — Businessman and Investor.
- Mr. Bernard Sabella — Member of Palestinian Legislative Council.
- Mr. Tawfiq Habash — Businessman.
- Mr. Jamal Zahalqa — Member of Knesset.
- Dr. Jamal Nusseibeh — Attorney-at-Law.
- Mr. Hatem Abd Al-Qader — Minister for Jerusalem Affairs, Palestinian Authority.
- Mr. Hana Siniora — Businessman.
- Mr. Hana 'Amira — Member of the Executive Committee, Palestine Liberation Organization.
- Engineer Khaled al-Kaluti — Member of the Board of Trustees of the Welfare Association.
- Ms. Dina Zarina — Secular Committee in the Holy Land.
- Ms. Rania Elias — Director, Yabous Cultural Center.
- Ms. Randa Makhlouf — Secular Committee in the Holy Land.
- Engineer Zaki Aghbariya — President Al-Aqsa Association for Waqf and Culture.
- Ms. Zahira Kamal — Secretary General Fida, Former Minister, Palestinian Authority.
- Dr. Sari Nusseibeh — President, Al-Quds University.
- Mr. Salah Atallah — Businessman.
- Engineer Adnan al-Husseini — Governor of Jerusalem District, Palestinian Authority.
- Mr. Azzam Abu Sa'ud — General Director, Jerusalem Chamber of Commerce.
- Dr. Afu Ighbaria — Member of Knesset.
- Archbishop Atallah Hanna.
- Shaykh Dr. Akrama Sabri — President of the High Islamic Council and Preacher of the Aqsa Mosque.
- Mr. Omar al-Alamy — Associate General Director, Jerusalem Cigarette Company.
- Mr. Francis Tamas — Financial Expert.

- Engineer Fouad al-Daqqaq — Advisor, Jerusalem Holding Company.
- Shaykh Kamal al-Katib — Vice President of the Islamic Movement in Israel.
- Engineer Mazen Sinokrot — Former Minister and businessman.
- Mr. Muhammad Baraka — Member of Knesset.
- Dr. Muhammad Jadallah — Representative of National Forces in Jerusalem.
- Mr. Muhammad Zaydan — President, Arab Higher Follow-up Committee in Israel.
- Dr. Mohamed al-Masrouji — President of the Board of Directors, Businessmen's Association and businessman.
- Rosary Sister's High School.
- Mr. Mas'ud Ghanaim — Member of Knesset.
- Engineer Mustafa Abu Zahra — President of the Council of Islamic Cemeteries in Jerusalem.
- Dr. Mahdi Abd al-Hadi — President, Palestinian Academic Society for International Affairs.
- Shaykh Najih Bakirat — Head, Manuscripts and Culture Section, Al-Aqsa Mosque.
- Professor Nabil Mashhour — President of the Union of the Arab Orthodox Club.
- Ms. Hind Khoury — Former Minister and Jerusalemite Activist.
- Mr. Hisham al-Kalouti — Jerusalemite Activist.
- Mr. Wasif Thahir — President of the Board of Directors, YMCA Jerusalem.
- Mr. Yusef Sanahir — Center for Church Relations.

cc:

- Ambassador Ibrahim Khreishi, Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations Office at Geneva
- Ambassador Elias Sanbar, Permanent Observer of Palestine at UNESCO, Paris
- Ambassador Riyad Mansour, Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations in New York
- Mr. Michael Ratner, Ms. Maria LaHood, Center for Constitutional Rights, New York.

United Nations A/65/930–S/2011/517

General Assembly
Security Council

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General Assembly
Sixty-fifth session
Agenda item 34
Protracted conflicts in the GUAM area and their implications for international peace, security and development

Security Council
Sixty-sixth year

Identical letters dated 11 August 2011 from the Permanent Representative of Georgia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to transmit herewith a statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia dated 9 August 2011, regarding the submission to the Russian Duma of the so-called agreements concerning Russia's military bases in Georgia's occupied territories and training against radiological and biological threats (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex issued as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 34, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Alexander **Lomaia**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

11-45404 (E) 170811

Please recycle

Annex to the identical letters dated 11 August 2011 from the Permanent Representative of Georgia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia in reaction to the submission to the Russian Duma of the so-called agreements concerning Russia's military bases in Georgia's occupied territories and training exercises against radiological and biological threats

On 8 August 2011, Russian President Medvedev submitted a series of so-called "agreements" concerning Russia's military bases in Georgia's occupied territories to the Russian Duma for ratification. This act, which Russia has taken on the eve of the third anniversary of Russia's full-scale military aggression against Georgia, is yet another cynical step by which Russia demonstrates its lack of respect for universally recognized norms and principles of international law, for its obligations according to the terms of the Ceasefire Agreement of 12 August 2008, and for the international community's consolidated stance regarding the inviolability of Georgia's internationally recognized sovereign borders, the ethnic cleansing which has taken place in its occupied territories and the need to de-occupy these very territories.

According to reports in electronic media, on the same day (8 August), Russia's radiological and biological defence forces held exercises in the Russian Federation's Southern Military District, as well as in the Republic of Armenia and in the so-called "republics" of Abkhazia and South Ossetia. These exercises, whose aim is to monitor nuclear explosions, to carry out radiological and biological reconnaissance, aero-isolation, disinfection and decontamination of equipment, will proceed in two stages and are due to end by 2 October. They will involve 600 servicemen and 160 military vehicles.

The deadlock Russia has found itself in following its occupation of Georgian territory and its recognition of the so-called "independence" of the occupation regimes has led the Russian government to carry out absurd actions such as these training exercises in defence against radiological and biological threats in Georgia's occupied territories.

If Russia really wishes to create a safe environment at its southern borders, the best way for it to do so would be to withdraw its occupying forces from Georgia's occupied territories, to agree to the deployment of international peacekeeping forces therein, to restore the functioning of the international monitoring missions it has expelled and, at the initial stage, to permit objective and unbiased monitoring of the situation by allowing the European Union monitoring mission (with which the Georgian authorities and law enforcement agencies cooperate in the spirit of mutual understanding and transparency) to access Georgia's occupied territories.

Georgia once again declares that it is committed to the non-use of force, reaffirms its readiness to cooperate with the international community and international organizations with the goal of establishing peace and stability in the region, and demands that the Russian Federation reciprocally commit to the non-use of force, that it desist from the militarization of Georgia's occupied territories, that it fully comply with the provisions of the commitments it has undertaken (notably those of the 12 August 2008 Ceasefire Agreement), and that it ensure the full de-occupation of occupied Georgian territory.

Tbilisi, 9 August 2011

United Nations A/65/931–S/2011/518

General Assembly
Security Council

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15 August 2011

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General Assembly
Sixty-fifth session
Agenda items 36 and 52

Security Council
Sixty-sixth year

The situation in the Middle East

Report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories

Identical letters dated 8 August 2011 from the Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit herewith identical letters dated 8 August 2011 from the Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council, containing a complaint against the Israeli occupation authorities, which decided to build a racist separation wall in the Occupied Syrian Golan, east of Majdal Shams (see annex).

I would appreciate it if the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly under agenda items 36 and 52, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Bashar **Ja'afari**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

11-45417 (E) 180811

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Annex to the identical letters dated 8 August 2011 from the Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

[Original: Arabic]

On instructions from my Government, I should like to convey to you a complaint against the Israeli occupation authorities, which have begun building a racist separation wall in the occupied Syrian Golan.

In June 2011, the Israeli Government decided to build a racist separation wall east of Majdal Shams in the occupied Syrian Golan, allegedly in order to prevent Palestinians and Syrians from crossing the ceasefire line and reaching occupied Majdal Shams. The Israeli Corps of Engineers in fact began constructing the wall at the beginning of this past July, and an agreement was reached with Israeli contractors to build a wall eight metres high and four kilometres long. It should be noted that the ceasefire line between Israel and Syria in the occupied Golan is approximately 100 kilometres long. The Israeli Chief of Staff, Benny Gantz, has ordered that construction of the wall should be completed in September 2011, that is to say, before the United Nations vote concerning recognition of the Palestinian State. Israeli army bulldozers and heavy equipment have been excavating and levelling a strip of land a few metres wide along the ceasefire line next to Majdal Shams, from the Khillat al-Ramlah area in the north to al-Naqaqir in the south.

The wall that Israel has begun building will separate the occupied portions of the Syrian Golan from and break their geographical contiguity with the Syrian homeland. It will also result in the seizure of vast areas of land, estimated to be hundreds of dunums, which belong to Syrian Arab farmers who were deprived of their land when it was appropriated in the mid-1970s. The Israeli army took control of that territory after the conclusion of the 1974 Disengagement Agreement. The land, which is part of the occupied town of Majdal Shams, was used to grow grapevines, wheat, chickpeas, barley, apples, almonds and figs.

The aim of building a wall in the occupied Syrian Golan is to establish a new political and security reality, and it will also serve to impose a specific reality on any future peace negotiations concerning the occupied Golan. This wall will also have an extremely adverse effect on the population of the occupied Golan because it will separate them from and break their geographical contiguity with their homeland, Syria. All this is taking place against the backdrop of Israel's policy of aggression against the people of the Golan, a policy that includes detention, expulsion, exorbitant fines, prosecution and driving workers from their place of employment.

By carrying out such grave acts as modifying the geographic characteristics of the occupied Syrian Golan, in particular the laying of paved and unpaved roads for military use and the construction of a permanent cement wall, the Israeli authorities have violated international law and contravened the Disengagement Agreement between the Syrian and Israeli sides, which was concluded under the auspices of the great Powers and the Security Council. The Syrian Arab Republic insists that the United Nations and, in particular, the Security Council, must shoulder its responsibilities and immediately take all necessary measures to halt this action,

which is part of Israel's ongoing campaign to cut off the occupied Syrian Golan from the Syrian homeland. It is a flagrant violation of international law and the relevant United Nations resolutions, in particular Security Council resolution 497 (1981), in which the Council decided that Israel's annexation of the occupied Syrian Golan was null and void and without international legal effect.

Below is a list of the families that own the appropriated land on which the wall is being erected:

- Sons of Husayn Mahmud (Qubaybah, Arid al-Mit'hanah)
- Sulayman Tarif (land that previously belonged to Abdullah Shahadhah) — sons of Jamil Al-Sayyid Ahmad
- Sons of Farid Al-Sayyid Ahmad — sons of Salih Hamud Khalil Abu Salih
- Sons of Salih Husayn Abu Salih — Isam Al-Safadi (Safadi family — around 3 dunums)
- Children of Malham Al-Safadi
- Sulayman Shams (Shams family — around 45 dunums) — Isma'il Shams
- Mahmud Shams — sons of Yusuf Abu Arar (around 7 dunums)
- Sons of Mahmud Mali (around 12 dunums) — Haza' Mali — sons of Sulayman Abu Jabal
- Sons of Husayn Abu Jabal Salih Al-Salih (east of Masil)
- Sons of Mansur Abu Jabal — sons of Hassan Mahdi Fakhruddin
- Sons of Sulayman Salman Ibrahim — sons of Bahjat Al-Halabi — sons of As'ad Al-Halabi
- Sons of Ali Al-Sabbagh — sons of Sulayman Abu Zayd — Faris Abu Zayd
- Sons of Hamzah Ibrahim — sons of Said Samarah — sons of As'ad Al-Haddad (displaced persons: sons of Fa'iz Al-Qal'ani) — sons of Jamil Husayn Rida — sons of Sa'id Khattar — sons of Ali Al-Shufi — sons of Ali Ibrahim — sons of Najib Dhib Burayk (east of Masil)
- Sons of Jamil Husayn Ali Abu Salih (east of Masil) — Mi'sarah (on the land of Jamil Sayyid Ahmad) — sons of Faris Khuza'i Abu Salih
- Sons of As'ad Armun — sons of Hamad Maddah — Sulayman Hamdi Wahbi Abu Salih
- Ghazi Faris Wahbi Abu Salih (Mi'sarat al-Dibs — east of Al-Masil)

(*Signed*) Bashar **Ja'afari**
Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic

United Nations A/65/932–S/2011/519

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Security Council

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General Assembly
Sixty-fifth session
Agenda items 34, 39, 66 and 75

Protracted conflicts in the GUAM area and their implications for international peace, security and development

The situation in the occupied territories of Azerbaijan

Elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance

Responsibility of States for internationally wrongful acts

Security Council
Sixty-sixth year

Letter dated 16 August 2011 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Armenia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I would like to draw your attention to the unparalleled increase in ceasefire violations by Azerbaijan along the line of contact between Nagorno-Karabakh and Azerbaijan. This stands as yet another evidence that Azerbaijan violates commitments reached during the trilateral meetings of the Armenian, Russian and Azerbaijani Presidents on "additional efforts aimed at the reinforcement of the ceasefire and enhancement of confidence-building in the military sphere" and "to strive to solve all contentious issues through peaceful means".

Through circulating letters containing false information at the United Nations on a regular basis, Azerbaijan strives to falsify the root causes of the conflict, including by shifting its own responsibility for countless atrocities, systematic pogroms and barbaric killings of defenceless and innocent Armenian children, women and elderly in Nagorno-Karabakh, as well as in different parts of Azerbaijan. With this aim, Azerbaijan has recruited, financed, trained and used mercenaries closely linked to terrorist organizations.

The letter of the Azerbaijani representative to the United Nations circulated as document A/65/921-S/2011/492, dated 3 August 2011, represents a new example of anti-Armenian hate propaganda conducted by the leadership of Azerbaijan.

The letter reveals that the representative of Azerbaijan has apparently taken it upon himself to blatantly interpret, or rather misinterpret, the remarks made by the

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President of Armenia, Serzh Sargsyan, singling out of context certain parts of the statement, and thus completely misrepresenting its essence.

On many occasions the Co-Chairs of the Minsk Group of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) called on the parties to consolidate the ceasefire, withdraw snipers from the line of contact and carry out other confidence-building measures. Azerbaijan rejected all of them. By regular violations of the ceasefire, provocations on the line of contact, threats of use of force and circulation of the above-mentioned letters at international organizations, Azerbaijan, in fact, continually destroys the confidence instead of engaging in confidence-building.

Furthermore, Azerbaijan rejected the proposal of the Co-Chairs of the Minsk Group on Nagorno-Karabakh conflict resolution at the meetings of the Presidents of Armenia, Russia and Azerbaijan in June 2010 in St. Petersburg, in October 2010 in Astrakhan, in March 2011 in Sochi and in June 2011 in Kazan. This is the reason why the negotiation process has not produced results.

Despite Azerbaijan's non-constructive stance, Armenia remains committed to the peaceful resolution of the Nagorno-Karabakh issue, strongly believing that the solution of the problem must be achieved only by peaceful means based on the principles of international law.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 34, 39, 66 and 75, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Karine **Khoudaverdian**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

United Nations A/65/933–S/2011/523

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
17 August 2011

Original: English

General Assembly
Sixty-fifth session
Agenda item 43
Question of Cyprus

Security Council
Sixty-sixth year

Letter dated 15 August 2011 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter dated 12 August 2011, addressed to you by Mr. Sertaç Güven, Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (see annex).

I would be grateful if the text of the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly under agenda item 43, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ertuğrul **Apakan**
Permanent Representative

11-45754 (E) 240811

Please recycle

Annex to the letter dated 15 August 2011 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to convey herewith a copy of the letter dated 11 August 2011 addressed to you by His Excellency Dr. Derviş Eroğlu, President of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (see enclosure).

I would be grateful if the text of the present letter and its enclosure could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 43, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Sertaç **Güven**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.
Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus

Enclosure

You must no doubt be aware of the recent official statements by the Greek Cypriot side announcing that drilling for underwater natural resource exploration to the south of the island will commence at the beginning of October. In this connection, I would like to bring the following to your kind attention.

At the outset, I wish to reiterate that the Greek Cypriot administration, which purports to be the "Government of the Republic of Cyprus", has no legal or moral right to represent or act on behalf of the Turkish Cypriot people or the whole island. This also extends, inter alia, to the signing, by the Greek Cypriot administration, of bilateral agreements with the countries of the region, particularly agreements related to sovereignty, such as the delimitation of maritime jurisdiction areas or exclusive economic zones and conducting oil/natural gas exploration activities in the eastern Mediterranean before the settlement of the Cyprus issue.

As the politically equal co-founding partner of the 1960 Republic of Cyprus, destroyed by the Greek Cypriots in the name of union with Greece, the Turkish Cypriots, who will again be the political equal of the Greek Cypriots in any future comprehensive settlement, certainly have an equal right and say on the natural resources of Cyprus, including in sea areas of the island. It is also an established understanding in the negotiations, including the current process, that issues related to the delimitation of maritime jurisdiction areas of the island of Cyprus will be left to the discretion of the new partnership government, where Turkish Cypriots and Greek Cypriots will share power on the basis of political equality.

It will be recalled that the attempts by the Greek Cypriot administration to create a fait accompli in the eastern Mediterranean through unilateral acts such as delimitation of maritime jurisdiction areas and the conducting of oil/natural gas exploration activities have already been brought to your attention through our repeated representations. As is known, the Greek Cypriot administration signed maritime delimitation agreements with Egypt as early as 2003, with Lebanon in 2007 and with Israel on 17 December 2010, to which both the Turkish Cypriot side and Turkey have registered their objections with the United Nations.

It has also been put on record that, in accordance with international law, the Greek Cypriot administration has no right to conclude bilateral agreements to delimit maritime jurisdiction zones, or to conduct exploratory surveys or drilling activities in the eastern Mediterranean. As known, the delimitation of the continental shelf or the exclusive economic zone in a semi-enclosed sea, such as the eastern Mediterranean, can only be effected by the agreement of all parties and taking into account the rights and interests of all concerned under international law.

In spite of the foregoing, our legitimate objections and warnings have gone unheeded and the Greek Cypriot administration has continued its unilateral acts, violating the legitimate rights of the Turkish Cypriot people, challenging neighbouring countries' maritime jurisdiction areas and, thus, threatening to undermine stability in the eastern Mediterranean.

The latest announcement by the Greek Cypriot administration to the effect that drilling for natural resource exploration to the south of the island is scheduled to start in October 2011 has taken the Greek Cypriot provocations in this respect to a new and dangerous level. At a time when negotiations are continuing to determine the future of the island together, such unilateral acts, apart from escalating tension,

have a serious negative impact on the ongoing process, adversely affecting the atmosphere between the two negotiating parties. I am sure you will agree that the timing of this act is particularly unfortunate, as it coincides with a critical, perhaps even decisive, phase of the negotiations, as we prepare for the tripartite meeting in October under your auspices. What is more, exploration and exploitation of offshore hydrocarbon resources by the Greek Cypriot administration cannot be simply viewed or presented as mere economic activities amid the current negotiation process, since such activities have the potential to fundamentally change the parameters on the ground and destroy the existing window of opportunity for a comprehensive solution.

I wish to reiterate that the recent provocative actions and statements of the Greek Cypriot side are casting serious doubts on its sincerity to negotiate and conclude a comprehensive settlement in the foreseeable future. I hope that the international community, in awareness of the above, uses its influence to convince the Greek Cypriot side to cease its unilateral activities regarding the natural resources of the island until the achievement of a mutually agreed settlement on the island and to adopt a more constructive attitude. Moving contrary to this path will serve no other purpose than increasing tension and damaging prospects for a settlement.

As the Turkish Cypriot side, we are determined to continue our constructive stance and to direct all our efforts towards concluding the present negotiating process with a mutually acceptable comprehensive settlement. I sincerely believe that a final solution of the Cyprus question is within our reach under your mission of good offices if the Greek Cypriot side decides to reciprocate in the same spirit, instead of engaging in activity that is not compatible with this objective.

(*Signed*) Derviş **Eroğlu**
President

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Letter dated 16 August 2011 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to enclose herewith the unofficial translation of the press release issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Turkey on 5 August 2011 regarding Turkey's position vis-à-vis the Greek Cypriot Administration's gas exploration activities in the Eastern Mediterranean (see annex).

I should be grateful if the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly under agenda item 43, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ertuğrul **Apakan**
Permanent Representative

11-47727 (E) 240811

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Annex to the letter dated 16 August 2011 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Press release regarding the Greek Cypriot Administration's gas exploration activities in the Eastern Mediterranean

5 August 2011

International law dictates that the delimitation of the continental shelf or the exclusive economic zone in the Eastern Mediterranean, which is indeed a semi-enclosed sea, should be effected between the relevant States in an equitable manner, taking into account the rights and interests of all parties.

Yet, the Greek Cypriot Administration, contrary to international law and in violation of the rights of the third parties, carries on its attempts, since 2003, to conclude bilateral agreements, delimit maritime jurisdiction zones with the neighbouring countries and conduct oil/natural gas exploration activities in the Eastern Mediterranean.

These agreements and exploration activities of the Greek Cypriots negatively affect the settlement of the Cyprus question and lead to new conflicts among the countries in the region. Turkey's views and objections on this matter, as well as those of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, have already been expressed to the countries in the region and registered with the United Nations in the past. In this respect, the countries and the companies having an interest in oil/natural gas exploration and exploitation in the south of the island of Cyprus based on invalid permits were called on to act in a responsible manner.

We still maintain our stance and views regarding the issue.

In light of the recent news and official statements that offshore drilling activity in the south of the island will start as of October 2011 it is deemed necessary to draw attention to some points once more:

The Greek Cypriot Administration does not represent in law or in fact the Turkish Cypriots and Cyprus as a whole. As such, the Greek Cypriot Administration is not entitled to unilaterally negotiate and conclude international agreements as well as adopt laws and conduct activities regarding the exploitation of natural resources on behalf of the entire island. These unlawful acts create tension in the region, compromise and prejudge the Turkish Cypriots' existing and inherent equal rights over the natural resources of the island and the sea areas of the island of Cyprus as well as have a direct bearing on the ongoing settlement negotiations.

It is only obvious that this kind of unilateral attempt embodies serious risks and drawbacks, especially at this critical juncture of ongoing comprehensive settlement talks to form a new partnership and determine the future of the island. Untimely and irresponsible actions of the Greek Cypriot Administration do deliver a serious blow to efforts to find a solution.

The fact that another country of the region has made the delimitation agreement signed by the Greek Cypriot Administration an issue before the United Nations demonstrates that these unilateral attempts undermine the peace and

stability of the region and give rise to new conflicts in addition to already existing ones.

The international community should act responsibly not to encourage these attempts of the Greek Cypriots aimed at usurping the legitimate and inherent right of the Turkish Cypriots to benefit equally from the natural resources of the island.

Turkey and the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus will continue their diplomatic and political efforts in accordance with international law to protect their legitimate rights and interests in the region. Turkey and the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus are resolved in this regard. It is our expectation that unilateral actions to create faits accomplis on the ground, which could derail the settlement talks on the island and increase the tension in the region, be avoided.